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SERMONS OF KARL BARTH

The publication of a volume of sermons by Karl Barth—*Deliverance to the Captives* (S.C.M. Press. 12s. 6d.)—inevitably leads to a consideration of his theological impact upon this generation and how far his theological thinking is reflected in his preaching. His has been one of the prophetic voices of our time. Professor John Marsh, in the Preface to the present volume, even goes so far as to suggest that perhaps the twentieth century in theology will be known as “the age of Barth”.

Be that as it may, the Karl Barth whom we hear in these sermons is pre-eminently the pastor rather than the theologian and evidence of his greatness

is shown, not in that extravagance of statement which has sometimes alienated those whom he wished to reach, but in his simplicity and directness, in his sympathy and understanding for the prisoners in Basel Prison where these sermons were preached.

Each sermon is prefaced and concluded by a prayer, tender in spirit and wide in vision, sensitive to the needs of those before him and of men everywhere. The sermons, expository in character, are marked throughout by an equal faithfulness in proclaiming God's demand and his succour, his claim and his mercy.

E.G.D.